

HB1291\_L.001

## HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on Public Health Care & Human Services.HB13-1291 be amended as follows:

1 Amend printed bill, strike everything below the enacting clause and  
2 substitute:

3       **"SECTION 1. Legislative declaration.** (1) The general assembly  
4 hereby finds and declares that:

5       (a) The first three years of life are a period of dynamic and  
6 unparalleled brain development in which children acquire the ability to  
7 think, speak, learn, and reason. During these first three years, children  
8 need good health, strong families, and positive early learning experiences  
9 to lay the foundation for future school success.

10       (b) Young children living in poverty are more likely to face  
11 challenges that can negatively impact their development and create  
12 disparities in their cognitive and social abilities long before they enter  
13 school;

14       (c) In 2011, an estimated twenty-one percent of all Colorado  
15 children, or nearly forty-two thousand children, under three years of age  
16 lived in poverty. Since 2000, the number of infants and toddlers living in  
17 poverty in Colorado has more than doubled, increasing by more than one  
18 hundred thirty percent.

19       (d) In an effort to ensure that all young children have the same  
20 opportunities to succeed in school and life, high quality early childhood  
21 education programs have been created to support the healthy development  
22 of low-income infants and toddlers;

23       (e) Research shows that high quality early childhood programs  
24 make a positive difference in areas associated with children's success in  
25 school, family self-sufficiency, and parental support of child  
26 development; and

27       (f) In Colorado in 2011, licensed child care center homes had the  
28 capacity to care for only nine percent of the infants in the state.

29       (2) The general assembly, therefore, declares that it is in the best  
30 interests of the children and people of the state of Colorado to provide  
31 state funding to expand and enhance high quality early childhood  
32 programs and services to meet the needs of more of our low-income  
33 infants and toddlers.

34       **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 6.7 to title  
35 26 as follows:

36                                   **ARTICLE 6.7**37                                   **Colorado Infant and Toddler Quality**

1                                   **and Availability Grant Program**

2           **26-6.7-101. Short title.** THIS ARTICLE SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY  
3 BE CITED AS THE "COLORADO INFANT AND TODDLER QUALITY AND  
4 AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM".

5           **26-6.7-102. Definitions.** AS USED IN THIS ARTICLE, UNLESS THE  
6 CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

7           (1) "COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM" OR "CCCAP"  
8 MEANS THE COLORADO CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE STATE  
9 DEPARTMENT.

10          (2) "COUNTY DEPARTMENT" MEANS A COUNTY OR DISTRICT  
11 DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.

12          (3) "EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL" MEANS AN EARLY CHILDHOOD  
13 COUNCIL ESTABLISHED PURSUANT PART 1 OF ARTICLE 6.5 OF THIS TITLE.

14          (4) "EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM" MEANS A SCHOOL DISTRICT,  
15 PROVIDER, HEAD START PROGRAM, OR FACILITY THAT PROVIDES CHILD  
16 CARE AND EDUCATION TO LOW-INCOME INFANTS AND TODDLERS, HAS A  
17 CONTRACT AS A PROVIDER THROUGH THE COLORADO CHILD CARE  
18 ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, AND IS EITHER LICENSED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF  
19 ARTICLE 6 OF THIS TITLE OR PARTICIPATES IN THE COLORADO PRESCHOOL  
20 PROGRAM PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 28 OF TITLE 22, C.R.S.

21          (5) "FUND" MEANS THE COLORADO INFANT AND TODDLER QUALITY  
22 AND AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FUND CREATED IN SECTION  
23 26-6.7-106.

24          (6) "GRANT PROGRAM" MEANS THE COLORADO INFANT AND  
25 TODDLER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM CREATED IN  
26 SECTION 26-6.7-103.

27          (7) "TIERED REIMBURSEMENT" MEANS A PAY STRUCTURE THAT  
28 REFLECTS AN INCREASED RATE OF REIMBURSEMENT FOR EARLY  
29 CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS THAT RECEIVE MONEYS THROUGH CCCAP.

30           **26-6.7-103. Colorado infant and toddler quality and**  
31 **availability grant program - creation.** SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
32 APPROPRIATIONS, THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE STATE DEPARTMENT  
33 THE COLORADO INFANT AND TODDLER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY GRANT  
34 PROGRAM. THE GOAL OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IS TO IMPROVE QUALITY IN  
35 INFANT AND TODDLER CARE, PROVIDE TIERED REIMBURSEMENT TO  
36 HIGH-QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS, AND INCREASE THE  
37 NUMBER OF LOW-INCOME INFANTS AND TODDLERS SERVED THROUGH  
38 HIGH-QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS, AS WELL AS PROMOTE  
39 VOLUNTARY PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT. A PROGRAM IS CONSIDERED "HIGH-  
40 QUALITY" IF IT IS IN THE TOP TWO RATINGS OF THE STATE'S QUALITY  
41 RATING AND IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM OR IS AN EARLY HEAD START

1 PROGRAM MEETING FEDERAL STANDARDS. EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCILS  
2 AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS MUST JOINTLY APPLY FOR MONEYS THROUGH  
3 THE GRANT PROGRAM, WHICH WILL BE ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE  
4 DEPARTMENT. EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS THAT ARE WITHIN THE  
5 SERVICE AREA OF AN EARLY CHILDHOOD COUNCIL AND WITHIN THE  
6 COUNTY JOINTLY APPLYING FOR THE GRANT MAY APPLY TO THE EARLY  
7 CHILDHOOD COUNCIL FOR MONEYS THAT WOULD ALLOW THEM TO ACHIEVE  
8 ONE OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GRANT PROGRAM.

9 **26-6.7-104. Eligibility for grants - applications - deadlines.**

10 (1) THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AN APPLICATION PROCESS  
11 AND ISSUE A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM,  
12 INCLUDING NOTIFICATION OF AVAILABLE MONEYS TO EARLY CHILDHOOD  
13 COUNCILS AND COUNTY DEPARTMENTS, ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA, PROPOSAL  
14 REQUIREMENTS, AND AWARD CRITERIA.

15 (2) AN APPLICANT TO THE GRANT PROGRAM IS ELIGIBLE FOR A  
16 GRANT AWARD PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE IF:

17 (a) THE APPLICATION IS MADE JOINTLY BETWEEN AN EARLY  
18 CHILDHOOD COUNCIL AND A COUNTY DEPARTMENT. IF AN EARLY  
19 CHILDHOOD COUNCIL SERVES MORE THAN ONE COUNTY, IT MAY SUBMIT A  
20 SINGLE APPLICATION THAT COMBINES MULTIPLE COUNTIES IN ITS SERVICE  
21 AREA.

22 (b) THE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS TO WHICH THE GRANT  
23 MONEYS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED HAVE CONTRACTS WITH CCCAP;

24 (c) THE APPLICATION DEMONSTRATES A NEED AND PROVIDES A  
25 PLAN TO IMPROVE QUALITY AND INCREASE THE CAPACITY FOR EARLY  
26 CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS IN ITS SERVICE AREA. THE GOAL OF THE GRANT  
27 PROGRAM IS TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS  
28 SERVED THROUGH EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS. THE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
29 PROGRAMS MAY BE HOME-BASED OR CENTER-BASED;

30 (d) IT PROVIDES A PLAN DETAILING HOW IT WILL PROVIDE TIERED  
31 REIMBURSEMENT; AND

32 (d) IT MEETS ANY OTHER CRITERIA SET FORTH IN THE APPLICATION  
33 PROCESS DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

34 (3) (a) IN FISCAL YEAR 2013-14, GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST BE  
35 RECEIVED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE JULY 31, 2013. THE  
36 STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW APPLICATIONS AND DETERMINE WHICH  
37 APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE GRANTS AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT.  
38 GRANT AWARDS MUST BE MADE ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 1, 2013,  
39 THROUGH THE FUND.

40 (b) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE  
41 APPROPRIATIONS, GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE STATE



1 DEPARTMENT ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30 OF THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR. THE  
2 STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW APPLICATIONS AND DETERMINE WHICH  
3 APPLICANTS WILL RECEIVE GRANTS AND THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT.  
4 GRANT AWARDS MUST BE MADE ON OR BEFORE AUGUST 1 THROUGH THE  
5 FUND.

6 (c) IF IN ANY FISCAL YEAR THE FULL APPROPRIATION BY THE  
7 GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM IS NOT DISPERSED AS  
8 SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPHS (a) AND (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), THE STATE  
9 DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW PROPOSALS AND AWARD GRANTS AS THE  
10 APPLICATIONS ARE RECEIVED AND NOT REQUIRE THE APPLICATIONS TO BE  
11 HELD UNTIL THE NEXT GRANT CYCLE.

12 **26-6.7-105. Colorado infant and toddler quality and**  
13 **availability grant program fund.** THERE IS HEREBY CREATED IN THE  
14 STATE TREASURY THE COLORADO INFANT AND TODDLER QUALITY AND  
15 AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM FUND, CONSISTING OF ANY MONEYS THAT  
16 MAY BE APPROPRIATED TO THE FUND BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE  
17 MONEYS IN THE FUND ARE SUBJECT TO ANNUAL APPROPRIATION BY THE  
18 GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE DIRECT AND  
19 INDIRECT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH IMPLEMENTING THIS ARTICLE. THE  
20 STATE TREASURER MAY INVEST ANY MONEYS IN THE FUND NOT EXPENDED  
21 FOR THE PURPOSE OF THIS ARTICLE AS PROVIDED BY LAW. THE STATE  
22 TREASURER SHALL CREDIT ALL INTEREST AND INCOME DERIVED FROM THE  
23 INVESTMENT AND DEPOSIT OF MONEYS IN THE FUND TO THE FUND. ANY  
24 UNEXPENDED AND UNENCUMBERED MONEYS REMAINING IN THE FUND AT  
25 THE END OF A FISCAL YEAR REMAIN IN THE FUND AND SHALL NOT BE  
26 CREDITED OR TRANSFERRED TO THE GENERAL FUND OR ANOTHER FUND.  
27 THE STATE DEPARTMENT MAY EXPEND UP TO THREE PERCENT OF THE  
28 MONEYS ANNUALLY APPROPRIATED FROM THE FUND TO OFFSET THE COSTS  
29 INCURRED IN IMPLEMENTING THIS ARTICLE.

30 **26-6.7-106. Reporting requirements.** (1) NO LATER THAN FOUR  
31 MONTHS AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF A GRANT, THE EARLY CHILDHOOD  
32 COUNCIL THAT RECEIVED THE GRANT SHALL PROVIDE THE STATE  
33 DEPARTMENT WITH AN ANNUAL REPORT CONCERNING THE OUTCOMES OF  
34 THE GRANT. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE, AT A MINIMUM:

35 (a) A SUMMARY OF DATA RECEIVED FROM EARLY CHILDHOOD  
36 PROGRAMS THAT RECEIVED GRANT MONEYS;

37 (b) THE NUMBER OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS UNDER THREE YEARS  
38 OF AGE SERVED BECAUSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM IN HOME-BASED  
39 PROGRAMS AND THE NUMBER SERVED IN CENTER-BASED PROGRAMS;

40 (c) THE LENGTH OF TIME SERVICES WERE PROVIDED;

41 (d) A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS MADE



1 USING GRANT MONEYS;  
2 (e) A DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE GRANTEE'S PROGRAM MET THE  
3 STATED OUTCOMES IN ITS APPLICATION;  
4 (f) A SUMMARY OF THE NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED THROUGH THE  
5 GRANT PROGRAM; AND  
6 (g) ANY OTHER DATA REQUIRED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.  
7 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2014, AND EACH DECEMBER 1  
8 THEREAFTER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE A WRITTEN REPORT  
9 ON THE GRANT PROGRAM TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH CARE AND HUMAN  
10 SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE  
11 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE, OR ANY  
12 SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES. THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE A SUMMARY OF THE  
13 DATA RECEIVED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
14 TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANTS AND GRANT MONEYS AWARDED, AND THE  
15 TOTAL INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF INFANTS AND TODDLERS UNDER  
16 THREE YEARS OF AGE SERVED BY THE GRANT PROGRAM.  
17 **SECTION 3. Safety clause.** The general assembly hereby finds,  
18 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate  
19 preservation of the public peace, health, and safety."

20 Page 1, strike lines 101 through 103 and substitute: "CONCERNING  
21 EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS IN COLORADO, AND, IN CONNECTION  
22 THEREWITH, EXPANDING THE CAPACITY AND IMPROVING THE QUALITY  
23 OF THE PROGRAMS THROUGH THE CREATION OF THE COLORADO  
24 INFANT AND TODDLER QUALITY AND AVAILABILITY GRANT PROGRAM."

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